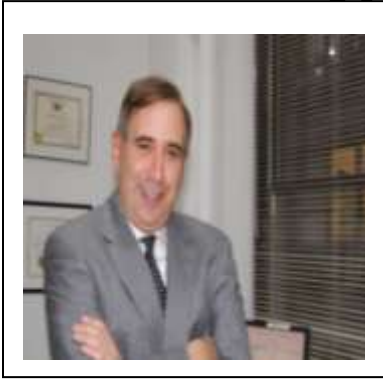


# Tax Resolution Times



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## ***Kingpin of U.S. Tax Scam Arrested in India***

Upon arrival at Mumbai's International Airport, Indian police arrested Sagar Thakkar, 24, also known as Shaggy, for being the mastermind behind a call center IRS scam that targeted thousands of Americans and netted more than \$300 million.

In October 2016, the U.S. Justice Department charged more than 60 people in India with participating in the scam, where call center agents impersonated IRS employees or other federal officials and demanded payment for non-existent debt.

Call center operators would threaten their potential victims with arrest, imprisonment, deportation or hefty fines if they did not pay immediately. They also told people to make their payment by prepaid debit cards, or to wire transfer money to accounts that were stolen or fake identities. Authorities have identified at least 15,000 people in the U.S who were targeted.

Following the arrests in October, Thakkar fled to Dubai and also spent time in Thailand. During that time, it is alleged he led a lavish lifestyle, staying at five-star hotels and purchasing expensive cars.

The U.S. is working with India to have Thakkar extradited to the United States.

## **Spa Owners Caught Massaging Their Income**

Four family members from Queens, NY were indicted on charges of failing to pay more than \$1.5 million in taxes. Steve Chon and his brothers Daniel Chon, Victor Chon and his daughter Stephanie Chon were charged with two counts of grand larceny in the second degree, eight counts of criminal tax fraud in the second degree and one count of criminal tax fraud in the third degree.

From the tax years 2010 to 2013, it's alleged that the four failed to report millions in income to avoid paying the \$1.5 million due in taxes.

If convicted, the four could spend anywhere between five and fifteen years in prison.



\* UNLIKE A BAKER'S DOZEN, YOU CAN'T EARN THIRTEEN DOLLARS OF INCOME AND REPORT IT AS EARNING TWELVE "

## Fried Chicken Restaurant Owners Take a Lickin' From the IRS

In a superseding indictment, three restaurant owners were charged with 18 counts of conspiracy and willful failure to pay taxes.

Hazrat Khan and Kurshed Iqbal, both from Boston, MA were initially indicted in April 2016 and the superseding indictment added Rahman Zeb, also of Boston to the charges.

The defendants owned two Crown Fried Chicken restaurants as well as the New York Fried Chicken Restaurant. It's alleged that Khan and Iqbal took steps to conceal their ownership in two of the stores and provided tax preparers with false information regarding payroll and income, causing the preparers to file false returns. Khan and Zeb used a similar scheme for the third restaurant.

To avoid paying payroll taxes, all three are alleged to have falsely reported the number of employees, many who were undocumented workers, and wages paid to the IRS. It's also alleged that they paid their employees under the table and filed false tax returns with the incorrect amount of sales, total income, compensation of officers, salaries and wages and taxable income.

If convicted, Khan, Iqbal and Zeb face up to five years in prison for conspiracy, a fine of \$250,000 and restitution. On the charge of willful failure to pay taxes, the court could impose a maximum sentence of five years in prison, an additional fine of \$250,000 and three years supervised release.

## Interior Designer Redecorates his Tax Returns

The owner of a Kirkland, WA, interior design firm, Daniel Nix was indicted in April 2017 on thirteen counts of tax evasion, eleven counts of providing fictitious financial obligation and one count of corrupt interference with the administration of the Internal Revenue code.

As alleged in the indictment, as early as 1998 and from 2000 to 2007, Nix refused to pay his income tax which totaled more than \$340,000, using shell companies to hide his income, filed false bankruptcy claims and filed false claims against the government.

For the tax years 2010-2013, Nix again attempted to hide his income to avoid paying taxes. Nix sent 11 fake money orders exceeding \$1 million to the IRS in 2013 to make it appear as if he was paying his tax obligations.

Tax evasion carries a maximum prison sentence of up to 5 years and a \$250,000 fine. For presenting fictitious financial statements Nix can be sentenced to up to 25 years in prison and an additional fine of \$250,000. Attempts to interfere with the administration of the tax code is punishable by up to 3 years in prison and a \$5,000 fine.

## Thank you!

Thanks to YOU, the word is spreading. Thanks to my clients and friends who graciously referred me to their friends, clients and relatives!! I enjoy building my business based on the positive comments and referrals from people just like you.

I just couldn't do it without you!

A belated Thanks to Cheryl M for referring Lynne during the tax season. Every referral is greatly appreciated.

## ***Insurance Salesman Convicted of Tax Fraud for not Filing Accurate Tax Returns Since 1996***

Terry DiMartino of Newington, CT was convicted of one count of corruptly interfering with the due administration of the Internal Revenue laws, two counts of filing false tax returns and five counts of willfully failing to file tax returns.

During DiMartino's trial, evidence showed that although he was an insurance salesman, and earned millions of dollars in insurance commissions, he did not file accurate tax returns or pay the taxes owed. In 2007, DiMartino filed three false returns, including one requesting a fraudulent refund of over \$14 million. He also set up nominee entities to conceal and divert his insurance commissions and hide his assets from the IRS.

It was shown at trial that DiMartino had not filed an accurate tax return since the 1996 tax year.

Sentencing has been set for July 2017. DiMartino faces a maximum sentence of three years in prison for the charge of obstructing the IRS, three years in prison for each charge of filing false returns and one year for each count of failing to file his returns. He also faces monetary penalties.

## **Weird State Tax Facts**

**-Alabama**-Residents still pay a Confederate veterans tax, despite the fact that all Civil War veterans are long dead. Nowadays the tax supports the Confederate Memorial Park.

**-Arkansas**-Charges a 6% tax on body piercings, tattoos and electrolysis.

**-South Carolina**-Any meat packer or butcher in the state can get a \$50 rebate by donating a deer carcass to charity to be used to feed the hungry.

**-Arizona**-Ice cubes are exempt from sales tax because they are used in mixed drinks. Blocks of ice are not.

**-New York**-There is no tax on the sale of whole bagels, but an 8.875% tax is charged if you get it sliced.

**-Illinois**-Candy made without flour, such as Twix is not taxed. If candy is made with flour, such as Snickers, it's taxed at 5%.

**-Missouri**-Single men between the ages of 21 and 50 must pay a \$1 annual tax. The law was enacted in 1820 to encourage more men to marry.

**-Colorado**-Coffee cup lids are taxed at 2.9%, but not the coffee cup itself.

**-Utah**-Since 2004, Utah charges a 10% tax on escort services and strip clubs.

**-Hawaii**-Residents can claim up to \$3,000 in personal income tax deductions for maintaining "exceptional" trees on their property.

**-New Jersey**-Pumpkins that are sold as decorations are subject to sales tax. If you plan to eat the pumpkin, the sale is tax free.

## ***Are You My Next Client of the Month?***

Every month I choose a very special *Client of the Month*. It's my way of acknowledging good friends and saying "thanks!" to those who support me and my business with referrals, word of mouth and repeat business.

This month's *Client of the Month* is Anthony S. Anthony owed over 160,000 in taxes for numerous years and was approaching retirement age. He settled his case through an Offer In Compromise for 22,050

You might be my next *Client of the Month* too! Watch for your name here in an upcoming month.

**Man Claims He Didn't File Tax Returns Because of the Bible**

James Schlosser of PA was convicted of failing to file tax returns for 21 years because he considered using a Social Security number akin to using the "mark of the beast" spelled out in the Bible.

Schlosser failed to file returns from 1994 to 2014 on his earnings of approximately \$2.3 million as a medical equipment salesman. The prosecution showed he funneled the income through foreign business trusts and corporations registered in Nevada.

Schlosser could face 5 years in prison and \$450,000 in fines.

**Thank you for the Kind Words...**

Daniel M. Silvershein is one of the best lawyers. Everything he promised he kept his word. He did everything in a short period of time. Most of the lawyers are not sure about things. He knew exactly what to do and how long it was going to take. I'm very satisfied. Everything he did for me I recommend him to all the people who have problems with the IRS

Edward T.

**I'd Like to Hear From You!**

If you have an IRS issue, or just want to refer a friend, relative or client, we'd love to hear from you. We can provide a no-obligation confidential consultation to help you solve your IRS problems.

**Law Office of Daniel M. Silvershein,**  
262 West 38<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite

**Enter Our Trivia Contest for a Chance to Win a \$250 Transferrable Gift Certificate!**

*Take the Trivia Challenge to win!*

Each month, I'll give you a new trivia question. The first **THREE** people who call my office with the correct answer win a free \$500 reduction on any IRS service I provide. Your prize is also transferrable, so use it for yourself, or give it to a family member or friend. Take your best guess and call me at 888-382-7880

If you guess correctly, you will be able to help yourself, friend or loved one with this valuable service.

This month's question is:

**What is the most abundant metal in the earth's crust?**

- a) Iron
- b) Aluminum
- c) Magnesium
- d) Titanium

**Your IRS Questions Answered Here...**

**Question:** *I own a small business and in order to keep afloat, I did not send the IRS my employee's withholding taxes for a few years. How much trouble will I be in?*

**Answer:** Owing 941 payroll taxes is very different from owing personal income taxes. Not only can the IRS padlock the doors to your business, they can come after you personally, levy your bank accounts, confiscate your receivables and seize your property. Scarier still is that it could turn into a criminal matter. Why? Because the money has already been deducted from your employee's payroll checks; so **it's not your money to begin with!** The IRS will look at it as if you stole their money. Payroll tax delinquency is the IRS's number one enforcement priority.

You need to get help from an experienced professional who deals with the IRS every day. We can assess your situation and figure out the best way to protect you, and will take over all dealings with the IRS so you don't have to. Don't let them take everything you've worked so hard for; call us today!

We at The Law Office of Daniel M. Silvershein are experts in tax resolution and help taxpayers like you with their IRS Problems every day.

Call us at 1-888-382-7880, or e-mail us at [daniel@dmsilverlaw.com](mailto:daniel@dmsilverlaw.com).